

## THE VIRGINIA TEACHER

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## SOME VIRGINIA EDUCATIONAL NEWS

### SUMMER CONFERENCE OF DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS

Superintendent Harris Hart, in inaugurating the Summer Conference of Division Superintendents, just held at Charlottesville, June 13th to 17th, has undoubtedly established a splendid type of educational conference in the state and has also created an excellent tool for furthering of educational development.

As visiting lecturers, Dr. Chas. H. Judd of the University of Chicago, Dr. Thomas Alexander of Peabody College for Teachers, and Dr. Alexander Inglis of Harvard University gave several lectures stressing mainly the problems of supervision. The superintendent's relation to his community, his relations to the teachers, the use of tests and measurements, the creation of an adequate teaching force, were prominent topics. Colonel Stiles of the United States Public Health Service also delivered several lectures on the proper provision of conditions for health in the country schools. Members of the University staff, members of the State Department of Education, and Dr. W. J. Hoke of William and Mary College also spoke to the superintendents. The university entertained both speakers and members of the conference very pleasantly.

Frequent expressions of appreciation were made that superintendent Hart had

scheduled a meeting so full of inspirational and practical value, many superintendents voting it the most fruitful conference which they had ever been privileged to attend. The fine professional spirit which dominated the conference betokens progress in supervisory work in Virginia in the near future.

VIRGINIA, \$385; CALIFORNIA, \$1,012

On the basis of figures for the year 1918, for which the latest complete returns are available, Virginia ranks fortieth among the forty-eight states in average annual salary for all teachers. The California average annual salary was highest for any state, standing at \$1,012, while the average for the United States was \$635. Virginia's average salary was \$385.

The average salary for teachers in city schools in Virginia in 1918 was \$587 against \$854 for the United States. Rural teachers in Virginia received \$314 as compared with an average of \$479 for the United States. Virginia high school teachers averaged \$819 as against \$1099 for the United States.

### SMALL PER CAPITA COST OF PRODUCTION

Figures presented by Commissioner P. P. Claxton in the May 15 issue of *School Life* show that an average of \$285 has been spent on the public school education of children who reached the school age of 6 years in 1905 and the normal age of high school graduation in 1919, for the entire United States.

Taken by states the amount ranged from \$637 spent by Montana to \$63 spent by Alabama. Only seven states rank below Virginia, which spent an average of \$101 on such children.

Seven states spent four times as much on the education of each child entering its schools in 1905 as did Virginia. They are Idaho, \$415; Colorado, \$421; Wyoming, \$438; District of Columbia, \$470; Washington, \$501; Nevada, \$508; California, \$540; and Montana, \$637.

The more difficult we find economic and social conditions, the more do we need education.—Governor Robert A. Cooper, of South Carolina.